

The Drayton Valley

Western Review

www.draytonvalleywesternreview.com



Tuesday, December 9, 2014



Mild winter?

After the initial dump of snow Environment Canada is forecasting a milder winter

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Planning for parks

Town looking at creating unique destinations with three new parks

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Vol. 49 No. 49 \$1.25 Incl. GST

WINTER FAIR OFFERS FAMILY FUN



Lesley Allan Western Review

While the weather was hightail, the fun indoors was delightful as St. Anthony School held its annual Winter Wonderland event in celebration of Christmas. From delicious treats to silent auctions and fun activities for the little ones, it was the perfect way for the families of St. Anthony and the community to spend the evening on Dec. 5.

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news

Investigation ongoing into cause of fatal fire

Western Review Staff

The Drayton Valley/Braceau County Fire Services are still investigating the cause of a house fire in Braceau County

that killed one person. Last week Fire Chief Tom Thomson said at this point in time the fire does not look suspicious. Fire crews were called to reports of the fire around 7:15

p.m. When they arrived on scene in the area of Range Road 484 and Range Road 51 the home was fully engulfed and he said it appeared the structure had been burning for a period

of time before the fire services were alerted. Human remains were recovered in the debris of the home. Breton/Thoreby RCMP are also involved in the investigation. An autopsy was performed last week, but when RCMP was contacted prior to the Western Review's deadline no further information was being released.

Milder winter predicted

Mamta Lulla
Western Review

Some are still recovering from all the snow that fell on Nov. 27 and Nov. 28, and all the snow we saw last year, but there's a chance the shovel can take a break this winter, according to Environment Canada.

Two weeks ago, Drayton Valley and surrounding area saw a significant amount of snow in two days, confirmed reports out of stations located in Violet Grove and Cymbria. "Reports from Violet Grove had 20 to 25 cm and about the same from reports from Cymbria," said meteorologist Dan Kulak from Environment Canada based in Edmonton.

On Dec. 1 Environment Canada released reports that suggest Western Canada may see a milder winter this year. The report is a forecast from now until February.

"Slight confidence that it will be milder than normal. Slight suggestion [it will be] above normal," said Kulak.

"We have a little confidence that it will average out to a little above normal temperature wise," he added.

He noted that Environment Canada doesn't have enough data to confirm precipitation levels. "It could be below, normal or above. We don't know, there is not enough data," he said.

When asked if it was normal for the area to be dumped with 20 cm of snow the first time around this season Kulak said the first snow just receives a lot of attention.



Snow maintenance crews were busy last week working on snow up from the first major snowfall to hit the area. ABOVE: Crews were on the job on 52 Ave. on Dec. 1.

"It's not necessarily normal or not, it's just that the first major one gets a lot of attention by the people, the media," he explained. He added that it is also very common to get a lot of snow in the beginning of winter, which surprises many. "Midwinter its temperature, not precipitation, that's normal." "The middle part of winter is relatively cold. Some parts of Alberta in February are the driest. It's one of the driest months if not the driest," he said.

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The new Clean Energy & Technology Centre will be Drayton Valley's local hub for business incubation, research and development, applied research and will foster the centres goals of innovation and technology based solutions for economic sustainability.

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DRAYTON VALLEY

www.draytonvalley.ca

UP & COMING...

CLARIFICATION TO BYLAW 2014/20/27 in regards to Borrowing Bylaw 2014/20/27 as advertised on Nov 4th and 12th, the total cost of the project requiring borrowing by the Town under this bylaw, amounts to \$25,500,000. After deducting the provincial grant funding of \$18,375,000 from the original cost and \$375,485 paid from Town Reserves, the net amount being borrowed from the Green Municipal Fund is \$6,749,515.

JUST A FEW REMINDERS...

WHEN THE SNOW FALLS PLEASE...
• obey all posted no parking signs & move your car when required. Help us keep your streets clear of snow. Violation of the no parking signs will result in being tagged and towed at the owner's expense.
• The Town of Drayton Valley would like to remind its residents to keep their sidewalks clear of ice and snow and avoid shovelling snow onto the roadways.
• PARKED TRAILERS (of any kind) hooked up to vehicles are limited to 34 hours. Trailers cannot be left unhooked on the roads.
For more information please contact the town at 780-514-2300.

YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB
Third Wednesday of every month
December 17 • 4 - 5 p.m.
Drayton Valley Rotary Library
5749-45 Ave. 780-514-2528

Hats off to our Public Works Staff!

We'd like to thank our dedicated Public Works staff for all their hard work following our recent snowfall. Their efforts in removing snow from emergency, school and arterial routes is much appreciated.

Our Public Works crews work to clear our main routes quickly before addressing residential areas. For more information regarding snow removal, a copy of the Snow Removal Policy is available on our website www.draytonvalley.ca

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

Please be advised that, due to the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays falling on regular scheduled waste collection days, there will be the following changes:

Christmas Day collection
will be picked up on Saturday, December 27, 2014
Recycling will be collected Fri., Dec. 26 & Sat., Dec. 27

New Year's Day collection
will be picked up on Saturday, January 3, 2015
Thank you for your co-operation!

SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD

MAKE A DIFFERENCE REGARDING DEVELOPMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The Drayton Valley Subdivision and Development Appeal Board is seeking new members.

This board deals with development and subdivision appeal issues which may occur from time-to-time with regard to lands within the Town boundaries.

If you are interested in sharing in the guidance of this group please submit your application to serve on this board. Subdivision and Development Appeal Board members will serve a one-year term and meet on an as-needed basis, usually 2-3 times per year (typically in the evening).

Applications may be picked up at the Town Office, Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, or are available on our website at www.draytonvalley.ca.

If you require any further information please contact Jennifer Martis, Planning & Development Officer at 780-514-2200.

NOTICE OF APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

Please be advised that the Development Authority of the Town of Drayton Valley has approved the following permits with conditions:

DV14-2022046-50 Street
C1-General Commercial District
Portable Signage

Issued (with conditions): Dec. 2, 2014

Please be advised that the Development Authority of the Town of Drayton Valley has refused the following permits with reasons:

DV14-164 4503-49 Street
C1-Central Commercial District
Discretionary Uses (Liquor Store)
Refused (with reasons): Nov. 18, 2014

Appeal Against a Decision of the Development Authority

An appeal may be made to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by any person claiming to be affected by the aforementioned decisions. Written submissions stating grounds for appeal plus required fees must be received no later than 14 days after the date of Newspaper Publication.

The Town of Drayton Valley
Attention: Jennifer Martis, Planning & Development Officer
Box 6837, 5120-52 St., Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1A1
Phone: 780-514-2300 • Fax: 780-514-2371
E-mail: jmartis@draytonvalley.ca

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COUNCILLOR
Debra Bossert • 780.514.0868
dbossert@draytonvalley.ca

Next Regular meeting of Council
Wed. Dec. 10, 2014
Council Chambers, Town Office • 9:00 a.m.

Next Governance & Priorities Meeting
Wed. Dec. 10, 2014
Town Office • 1:00 p.m.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
currently has the following vacancies:

MEMBER AT LARGE POSITIONS

If you have an interest in traffic safety within the community and are available to attend meetings approximately four times a year, please submit your application via email to: bylaw@draytonvalley.ca by January 16, 2015

Committee application forms can be found on the Town website (under employment opportunities) or can be picked up at the Town Office. Terms of Reference for this Committee can be picked up at the Town Office.

Town Office Civic Centre 5120 - 52 Street | Tel. 780.514.2200 | Fax: 780.542.5753 | Box 6837 Drayton Valley T7A 1A1 | 8:30am - 4:30pm • 24hr Info Line 780.514.2220
 City Clerk/Community Development Officer 780.514.2308 • Municipal Engineer/Community Development Officer 780.514.2309 • Planning & Development Officer 780.514.2300 • Public Works Officer 780.514.2301 • Recreation Officer 780.514.2302 • Social Services Officer 780.514.2303 • Town Clerk 780.514.2304 • Town Engineer 780.514.2305 • Town Manager 780.514.2306 • Town Treasurer 780.514.2307

news

Councillors consider timing of by-election

Dates to be presented at council this week

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

Drayton Valley Town Councillors are not considering a request to extend the 90-day timeline for a by-election.

The municipality must hold a by-election to fill the vacancy left by the abrupt resignation of Nancy McClure last month. Unless an extension is

requested and granted by Municipal Affairs, the Municipal Government Act requires it to be held within 90 days of the resignation.

At last week's Governance and Priorities Meeting, councillors were discussing possible timing for the vote to take place, as well as a need to educate the public on the importance of casting their ballots.

Items brought to Governance and Priorities meetings are for information and discussion only. Decisions must be made by way of an official vote at council.

Despite the timing over the Christmas season not being ideal, councillors are in agreement of the value of having the by-election in time for the new member of council to take part in the annual council retreat and strategic planning sessions.

I think it doesn't make any sense to extend it. We need to fill this vacancy," said Coun. Dean Shular.

His colleagues agreed.

Mayor Glenn McLean noted that the call for nominations must be advertised for a minimum of two weeks and the by-election must be held one month from nomination day.

Although nothing will be confirmed until a formal vote at council, councillors were suggesting a nomination date of Jan. 6 with the by-election to follow at the beginning of February.

McLean also noted that he would like to see an effort toward a 'get out and vote' campaign to engage local voters and promote a high voter turnout.

Coun. Nicole Nadeau also expressed interest in

the possibility of hosting a campaign school to help educate candidates about what the role of councillor entails.

The item will be in front of councillors again at this week's council meeting.

Update on by-election expected

Lesley Allan
Western Review

BY-ELECTION
During the Dec. 3 regular council meeting, Brazeau County CAO Marco Schiavone informed council that they expect to have an update from Municipal Affairs regarding the requested extension for the upcoming by-election, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Nancy McClure, at the Dec. 18 regular council meeting.

NEW STAFF
Several new staff members were introduced. Brenda Christie, director of corporate services, introduced Jodi Benlik, municipal and community grants co-ordinator and Roseanne Gaudin, records management co-ordinator. Martino Verhaeghe, director of planning and development, introduced Mary Ellen Whyte, education officer and Madeleine Kiftan, development officer.

BUCK CREEK HALL
Council passed a motion to support the request from the Buck Creek Hall for financial assistance in the amount of \$7,481.25 for the purchase of a water treatment system. The allocated funds will come from unreserved surplus.

RECOVERY AUDIT
Council passed a motion to set Feb. 24, 2015 as the date for the Recovery Audit and

approved the conditions of sale and established reserve bids. Alternative dates would be Feb. 25 and 26, or Mar. 3, 4 or 5 as all sales must take place before Mar. 17.

BUDGET
Council adopted the 2015 Interim Annual Budget as amended with revenues of \$52,372,687, expenses of \$43,885,501 and capital investment of \$21,705,079. The vote came at the conclusion of budget meetings held late last month. The final budget will be passed in 2015.

INSPECTION
A motion was passed to proceed with a Traffic Impact Assessment on Range Road 45 and Hwy. 39 intersection for \$15,300.

OUTDOOR RINK
Curtis Buchan attended council on behalf of the proposed outdoor rink in Drayton Valley. Explaining to council that the project is expected to cost \$400,000 he shared that hopes are to start work in summer 2015. Buchan also shared that the Town of Drayton Valley has agreed to cover \$100,000 of the project, and requested that the County match that, with the remainder of the funds being collected through fundraising. Council took the presentation as information.

RECYCLING
Council approved first reading and set a public hearing for Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. for bylaw

855-14 after an application was received to add an outdoor storage facility as a discretionary use to the commercial district.

Council also approved first reading and set a public hearing for Jan. 20 at 10:30 a.m. for bylaw 856-14, which would provide discretionary authority for development officers and the Municipal Planning Commission.

COMMUNICATION TOWER
Council gave second and third reading to bylaw 854-14 to designate lots B and C, Block 1, Plan 1889KS as Public Utility Lots. The change was made for the proposed tower for Cytel that will be located near the Solar Aquatics facility.

AMENDMENT RESCINDMENT
Council rescinded first and second reading of bylaw 142-14 proposing part of SW 32-46-6-W3M be restricted from agricultural district to direct council district and cancelled planned public hearings follow the applicant with drawing their application.

FEY REVIEW
Council passed a motion to have administrative draft a request for proposal to initiate the process of obtaining a consultant for an off-site levy study.

RECYCLING
The next regular council meeting will be held Dec. 16 and Jan. 6. All council meetings are open to the public.

Buy your new home before January 1, 2015 & receive a \$300.00 prepaid Christmas VISA!

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Overstocked on Brand New 2014 3 & 4 Bedrooms - 2 Baths 16, 20 & 22 Wides Starting at \$89,900.00!! Call today!!

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FCSS Drayton Valley & District Family Holiday Help-Let

Photo Scavenger Hunt!

Simply take a picture of your family (minimum 4 people, may include family members at heart!) participating in the activities listed below. For each photo completed and submitted to fcscdm@draytonvalley.ca, you will receive an entry for the grand prize!

We will also have prizes for creativity and team participation. Please call 780-514-2206 to register your team or for more information.

1. Chatting with any agency employee in the Rotary House (open 8:30-4:30).
2. Piling on a toboggan together!
3. Reading together at the Rotary or Municipal Library.
4. Helping a senior!
5. Doing a random act of kindness for a neighbor.
6. Swimming at Park Valley Pool or Skate at any local skating rink.
7. Donating to the food bank.
8. Looking through the Drayton Valley and District Guide to Arts, Learning, Recreation and Support Services.
9. Baking, cooking or eating dinner together as a family!
10. Doing a random act of kindness for a stranger.

We encourage you to be creative and to be safe! To thank all teams for their participation, we will be hosting a Movie Night & Award Ceremony at the Max Centre in January (date TBA).



Brazeau County News

www.brazeau.ab.ca | 780-542-7777

CONGRATULATIONS COUNCILLOR ANTHONY HEINRICH

Acting Reeve Shirley Mahan congratulated Councillor Anthony Heinrich for receiving an award from the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) for his 16 years of service in municipal government. Councillor Heinrich was presented with his award at the AAMDC annual conference held in Edmonton on November 18, 2014.

RESERVATIONS OPEN: JAN. 5, 2015 EASYFORD PARK & MODESTE CREEK GROUP CAMPING

Inquire for an information package: CLoose@brazeau.ab.ca Or call: 780-542-7777

DISPOSAL OF OIL & ANTIFREEZE

In an effort to give residents of Brazeau County an option for disposal of their used oil and antifreeze we have confirmed that the Aspen Waste landfill in Drayton Valley does accept both at their site at no charge as long as the load is made up of only these materials. Mixed loads (garbage with oil and antifreeze) would be charged the rate of \$71.00 per tonne. Aspen Waste does request however that if large quantities are being brought in that users call ahead to confirm they have room for them at their location at that time. If this material is in barrels, these may be simply dropped off in the designated area and do not need to be transferred via pump or pouring of the material. We are currently researching opportunities to have larger quantities of used oil and antifreeze picked up at our residents' homes. We will update this information as it's available. Aspen Waste can be reached at (780) 542-5919.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS

- Municipal Planning Commission Meeting on December 9th starting at 10 am in the Council Chamber. Contact the Planning & Development Department at 780-542-2667 for further information. ***Dates are subject to change.
- Regular Council Meeting on December 16th, 2014 starting at 9 am.
- Agricultural Service Board Meeting on December 17th at 10 am at the County office.
- 2014 County Ownership Maps are available for \$10.00 plus GST. You may pick them up at the Administration office reception desk.
- All Council meetings are held in the Council Chamber and are open to the public.

Information about Brazeau County employment opportunities can be found in the employment section on our website, www.brazeau.ab.ca



Acting Reeve Shirley Mahan
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780-542-0814



Councillor Rita Morin
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Councillor Marc Gieseler
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780-586-2008



Councillor Kate Westendorf
kwestendorf@brazeau.ab.ca
780-590-4761



Councillor Anthony Heinrich
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780-696-2498



Councillor Maryann Thompson
mthompson@brazeau.ab.ca
780-542-0803

news

Man permitted to serve time in jail on weekends

News from
Drayton
Valley
Provincial Court

By
Doreen
Stewart

A man will be able to serve his jail sentence on weekends after pleading guilty to assault last week in Drayton Valley Provincial Court.

David Bunning pleaded guilty to assault, as well as two charges of breach of probation stemming from an incident on Nov. 25.

Bunning, who was under a probation order in relation to alcohol as well as not to contact a specific person, attended that woman's residence while intoxicated. Bunning got in an argument with the woman and during the altercation the court heard he grabbed her first and pushed her to the ground.

Bunning then fled the residence before police could

arrive. He was later located and arrested.

Last week the Crown was asking the court to consider a 60 day jail term for the assault.

The lawyer speaking on Bunning's behalf asked Judge Marilyn White to consider allowing Bunning to serve any jail time intermittently on weekends, which would allow him to continue working.

White sentenced the 36-year-old to 60 days in jail for the assault, with credit for the equivalent of 14 days spent in pre-sentence custody. She did agree to allow him to serve the time on weekends. She also sentenced him to 30 days in jail on each of the breach of probation charges, which will be served concurrently to his assault sentence.

BREACHING CONDITIONS

RESIDES IN JAIL
A man who chose to break a court order was sentenced to jail last week in Drayton Valley Provincial Court.

Blair MacNeil was arrested on Nov. 16 and charged with two counts of failing to comply with

a court order to have no contact with a victim's person.

He was also charged with failing to appear in court on Sept. 16.

MacNeil pleaded guilty to all three charges last week when he appeared in court via closed circuit television from custody.

The 33-year-old was sentenced to 24 days in custody for breaching the no-contact condition, with credit for the equivalent amount of time spent in pre-sentence custody.

He was sentenced to serve 10 days concurrently for failing to attend court. He was given credit for pre-sentence custody on that charge, as well.

LICENCE PLATE THEFT
SENTENCED TO JAIL

A man observed stealing a licence plate from a vehicle parked in Drayton Valley Provincial Court last week.

Jason Mihaluk entered a guilty plea to theft under \$5,000 for the incident.

On Nov. 21 Drayton Valley RCMP received a report that two people had driven up in a Mer-

cedes and were then seen taking the licence plate of another Mercedes. Police arrived after the suspects had left, but were able to locate them. One of those men was Mihaluk.

Last week he was sentenced to spend 18 days in jail, with credit for the equivalent of 18 days spent in pre-sentence custody.

THREE CHARGED IN RELATION TO DRUGS BACK IN COURT NEXT WEEK
Two men and a woman who were charged after a search warrant was executed on a Drayton Valley residence on Nov. 21,

appeared in Drayton Valley Provincial Court last week.

All three were granted bail and will next appear in court on Dec. 16.

The three are facing numerous charges related to allegations of drugs and trafficking in drugs.

Fire Services respond to 300th call

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

A two-vehicle collision on Hwy 621 in the area of Range Road 92 was call 300 for the Drayton Valley/Bracebridge County Fire Service this year.

That collision, on Dec. 2 around 8 p.m. was one of nine calls between Nov. 26 and Dec. 3. Emergency services responded after a logging truck and wide load sideways slipping the road. Fire Chief Don Thomson said only minor injuries were reported in that incident.

The week started in the early morning hours of Nov. 27 when a fire alarm was reported in a commercial building. When firefighters investigated they found the alarm system had been set off by a malfunctioning sprinkler system.

At around 1 p.m. that evening crews were called in the report of a vehicle fire inside a local shop. Thomson said fortunately a mechanic in the shop was able to extinguish the majority of the blaze prior to fire crews arriving. At approximately 7:15 p.m.

firefighters from Station No. 2 and Station No. 3 were dispatched to a structure fire in Bracebridge County. For more on that fire see pg. 2.

That same night at approximately 6 p.m. an alarm call was reported. The alarm turned out to be false, and the result of cooking.

Around 10 p.m. on Nov. 28 emergency services responded to a single vehicle rollover at Hwy. 22 and Range Road 74.

Minor injuries were reported in another two-vehicle collision, this one in around 6:15 p.m. at the intersection of Township Road 494 and Range Road 73.

Shortly after that, at around 7 p.m., firefighters from Station No. 1 in Lodgepole were called to a vehicle fire on Hwy. 620. The fire was in a tractor trailer, but Thomson said the fire was contained to the tractor component of the vehicle. Crews were able to get it under control. No spills or leaks resulted from the fire.

A third winter pipe was the cause of an alarm call at a local hotel on Dec. 2.

IT CAN BE A BIT DRY WHEN THINGS ARE ICEY
Temperatures took their

first major dip recently, but are expected to warm up above freezing during the day this week. That means it's time for people to get re-educated on ice safety.

"People assume, now that we've had that cold snap, that it's safe to go on the ice," said Fire Chief Don Thomson.

That is far from the case. A number of factors contribute to the strength of ice, including external temperatures, the amount of snow cover, size and depth of the water body and any outside competitions such as salt or sand, as will be found in local stormwater management ponds.

It's important for residents to obey any posted signage and if still unsure, contact the Town before going out on municipal ponds, said Thomson.

Although no ice is over 100 per cent safe, he said it's important to look for obvious danger signs like cracks, breaks, water on top, abnormal bumps or rills.

Ice is at its strongest when it's blue-clear in colour. It's most important to stay off if the ice is slushy and without much noticeable colour.

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2014 YEAR END COUNTDOWN CLEAR-OUT



STK #2640
2014 Toyota Prius C
\$21,772



STK #2843
2014 Toyota Matrix
\$21,735*



STK #2851
2014 Toyota Tundra 4WD
\$46,385*



STK #2919
2014 Toyota Tacoma
\$37,995

STK #2854
2014 Toyota Sequoia
\$65,275*

STK #2942
2014 Toyota Highlander Hybrid LE
\$43,103*



STK #2933
2014 Toyota Camry LE
\$22,057*



STK #2850
2014 Toyota Corolla S
\$19,669*

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YEAR END COUNTDOWN

Comment

The Drayton Valley
Western Review

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Canada

SUN MEDIA



our editorial

Parks play vital role in building strong communities

For a municipality of its size, Drayton Valley is fortunate to have so many public green spaces for residents to enjoy. From small neighbourhood parks to the walking trails and larger spaces such as Rotary Park and Ivan to Park there are lots of opportunities to get outside.

Currently the Town of Drayton is in the process of looking at ways to enhance two of its existing parks — Rotary Park and Downtown Park — and determine how to develop a new park space on the site of the former H.W. Pickay Junior High School. Last week consultants were in town hosting public consultation sessions to find out from the community their view of the parks and how they would like to see them evolve. The municipality is hoping to establish a unique identity for each of the three parks, serving the diverse needs of those who will use them.

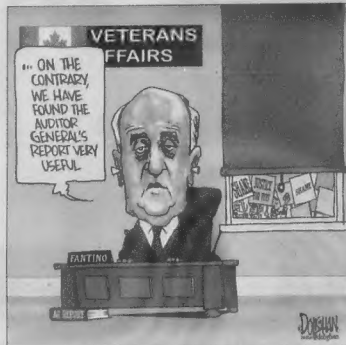
As is usually the case when it comes to these types of public input sessions, there was plenty of extra space. However, once those who were in attendance understood they were there to participate, not just hear a concept already developed, there was a lot of ideas flying around.

One of the main ideas consultants from EIDOS Consultants Inc. kept emphasizing was the idea of parks and green spaces as a necessity for a community, not simply another amenity.

As the Town of Drayton Valley focuses on the idea of building a resilient community, parks will play a large role. As places that are open to everyone at no cost, they act as a natural gathering place. Once people are outside of their homes and in the public space the chance of creating new connections grows exponentially. Those connections play a huge role in the concept of resiliency.

By creating spaces that are distinct from each other, instead of trying to make every park serve the needs of all potential users, the Town of Drayton Valley is also creating a park system that will encourage movement from one to the other, further expanding the opportunities for residents to meet new people and create new connections.

While this project is only looking at three parks it can be hoped that, if it is successful, the municipality will look at continuing it with other major green spaces in the community.



But, look at my hair!

I am currently in the midst of preparing for more than three weeks of holidays that will allow me to spend the Christmas season with family and friends in Ontario.

The last few weeks have been hectic with preparations, sent Christmas cards, composed a list of all the things I need to have ready at work, and then had a minor mental meltdown when I saw the length of said list. Along with all those items I made sure to make an appointment to get some holiday hair.

Prior to going anywhere on holidays I like to freshen up my 'do. Not only does give me a boost to get through the last few days of work, it's also an important part of my battle plan.

You see, while I love going back to the old hometown and seeing family, friends and other familiar faces, it is also inevitably an endeavor fraught with questions unanswered by a certain age are familiar with deflecting. And when it comes to dodging the type of questions I'm alluding to, what is needed is a good distraction.



There and Back
Courtney Whalen

Allow me to demonstrate with a small sampling of the questions that will 100% be lobbed my way when I run into people I used to know. "Do you have a boyfriend?" "No, but, look at my hair!" "Any kids?" "No, but, look at my hair!" "No, but, look at my hair!" "Do you have a house?" "No, but, look at my hair!" "Any prospects of a house, boyfriend or kids?" "No, but, LOOK AT MY HAIR!"

Experience has taught me that attempting to steer conversation in other directions, such as the fact that I'm the editor of a newspaper, have limited results. People are not that interested in my job when they're busy dishing out platitudes about my personal life.

The fact that people are more focused on and interested in that aspect of others' lives than things such as careers, travel or meaningful discussions, is fodder for another, far more angry column. This edition is meant to be a comic romp about the strategic uses of new hair.

No, when it comes to unwanted questions, distraction is always best. And as it is a significant change from what many will remember, I'm anticipating it will work like a charm. When I have a second to spare I've been finding the closest mirror to practice the appropriate movements to accompany my battle cry. I believe I've settled on a hair toss that looks both effortless and unheeded and will draw attention to my fresh blonde highlights.

So armed, I believe I am ready to charge into the minefields of casual conversation with those I will meet during my tenure in Ontario. Of course, every great strategist needs a back up plan in case the original plan turns out to be absolute garbage. Mine involves wine. Lots and lots of wine.

Letter to the editor

Reader not amused by headline

What are earth were you thinking with your headline "What the duck?" "Where's the duck?" maybe! Are you insinuating a pro-

fanity? I certainly take offence to this, in a newspaper nonetheless. Can we not get away from the foul mouths anywhere? I would appreciate your comment on my comment, just in case I am misunderstanding this!

Donna Powell

"Editor's note" The headline, which appeared on pg. 15 of the Dec. 2 Western Review, was intended to be humorous. The intention was not to cause offence to readers.

LETTERS POLICY

To be considered for publication, letters to the editor must include the full name of the author for print and an address and phone number for verification.

Letters may be edited for length, content, grammar, spelling and libel. We will not print anonymous letters. As a local newspaper we focus on local events and our letters section is reserved for residents in our readership area.

Letters can be e-mailed to: courtney.whalen@sunmedia.ca, or dropped off at our office during business hours.

When a cause goes too far

Since being in Alberta I'm happy to say that besides the Internet I have not had to deal with disrespectful campaigns of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals).

As Albertans I'm sure there are many of you that would agree with me in my sentiments, but for some not for the same reasons.

Personally, and as someone with a sense of humanity, I have no problem with their message of animal rights and their desire for people to turn vegetarian.

I respect their ideals and their right to have an opinion, even if it isn't completely in line with mine when it comes to the consumption of meat.

My distaste for PETA comes from the disrespectful approach they take to getting their message out there, such as objectifying women in taking advantage of an unfortunate situation that has me question the mental state of the individual they are stealing their latest promotional campaign from.

The situation I refer to is that of a 50-year-old woman who was recently charged after it was found that she failed to report the death of her husband and then remained in the home with his body for several months.

According to reports, Peter Wald, 52, died in March after developing a foot infection, a common complication of diabetes, but instead of seeking



Lesley's Lessons
Lesley Allan

treatment his wife then locked the bedroom door, leaving him there while sealing up the vents with duct tape (apparently to protect her family from the smell) and for the next six months, prayed that he would be brought back to life.

For most this story send up flags for abuse or mental illness, but for those at PETA the troubling case was inspiration for their latest campaign and they are currently in the process of erecting billboards in Hamilton, Ontario, where the incident took place, asking "Do you have corpses in your home?"

Comparing the untimely death of this misdeed man to that of animals being slaughtered for meat.

For a organization that so fiercely stands up for the respect of animals, PETA itself seems to have some serious issues when it comes to respecting people and even to issue with using real life situations, no matter how troubling,

to their advantage. In 2004 this truth was very much clear when the animal rights organization ran their holocaust themed exhibit where the organization directly compared farm-animal slaughter to the extermination of 6 million Jews in the Holocaust.

Titled "Holocaust on Your Plate" the exhibit hit the nerve of many people when it was opened and rightfully so, as the group juxtaposed images from concentration camps against those of animals.

An example from the extremely disrespectful and insensitive "Holocaust on Your Plate" exhibit under the headline "Baby Butchers." PETA shows an image of children behind bars in a concentration camp next to a pen filled with pigs.

For anyone or any cause to think they have the right, or that it's somehow morally acceptable, to use not only the death of humans, but the mass murder of millions, to push their beliefs on an unwilling audience is appalling at best.

As I previously stated, I have no issue with people expressing their views or sharing why they believe it's proper, but when you cram it down the throats of others by disrespecting just about everybody something is wrong.

After all, we wouldn't accept the types of campaigns PETA uses if they came from a group promoting race, religion, gender, or social class.



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opinion

Families of all designs are important for children

In August, 2014 I accepted a position with Aim for Success, the beginning of our new adventure, which saw us move from Windermere, BC to Drayton Valley. For the past five months I have come to realize just how much family matters, including my new community.

I believe that a strong family unit is a child's best defence against much of what this world can throw at them, no matter what that family unit looks like. My new position at Fourgreen Elementary School has really cemented that within my personal and professional belief systems. I love hearing all about what the children did with their families over the weekend or the funny stories they share from the dinner table

the night before. Their eyes glow with excitement when they share how dad took them hunting or grandma actually held dad at length.

It's a perspective that so many of us as parents don't get to see, including myself. I have worked in high schools most of my career and let's be honest, teens don't tend to glow as much when talking about mom and dad. It's so plain to see when working in an elementary school that our children need and adore us, their primary caregivers, no matter what behaviour they exhibit at home.

Statistics show that children who are part of a supportive family are more likely to be successful as adults. They will accomplish more and have a positive outlook on life and



will be better behaved, which translates into adults who are contributing members of the community, and because life is a cycle, many of these children will grow up to become active and involved parents themselves.

But families come in all shapes and sizes today. Single parent families or grandparents raising their grandchildren are no longer unusual and aunts, uncles, older siblings and even foster parents have all become part of normal and healthy fam-

ily relationships. The days of stereotypes stating that children raised in any one of these kinds of families will not be as successful as children raised in a traditional two parent family are fading into the past.

The Search Institute has developed the 40 Developmental Assets which when present in a child's life helps them to develop into healthy, caring and responsible adults. What stands out for me is the importance of relationships with family, community and the school for our children. Essentially, any positive interaction with a caring adult can and will make a difference.

That is why I am so excited to be a part of the Aim for Success team, for a full list of all our project partners see www.aimforsuccess.ca/partners

ment. Once a month we organize family events that are intended to contribute to, and support positive family relationships. Our aim is to welcome ALL families, regardless of how they are constructed. Watch for our future events on our Facebook page and website and join us to have fun and create lasting memories.

— Shelley Charney is a Success Mentor with Aim for Success. Find them online at www.aimforsuccess.ca

Aim for Success, as part of the Mental Health Capacity Building Project works in partnership with the Wild Rose School Division, Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education. For a full list of all our project partners see www.aimforsuccess.ca/partners

Around the water cooler...

Here we are again! The smells and sounds of Christmas are in the air and we've got a special treat for you in this week's edition of the Western Review. Please enjoy the song and recipe book you'll find in your paper!

We have lots of birthday wishes to send out this week!

We want to start with some very big, very special birthday love to two of our very favourite people.

There needs to be 30 candles on the cake for Brandy Fries-

rickson when she celebrates on Dec. 12. Likewise, Jennifer Stone gets 30 candles when she has her birthday on Dec. 13! These two were born only a day apart, likely because they absolutely couldn't wait any longer to get together and start a conversation!

Happy birthday ladies, lots of love and birthday hugs!

On the heels of those birthdays we have two other lovely ladies celebrating their special days.

Donna Hanson should be the

recipient of your happy birthday on Dec. 15.

That same day Holly Davis also gets some cake and ice cream.

Best of wishes to both of you! We don't have much space left, but we want to make sure and pass along an event that's happening this Saturday in support of Santa's Anonymous. The Drayton Valley Thunder is hosting a 'Stuff A Bus' event Dec. 13 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Walmart parking lot. Players will be taking

donations of new, unwrapped toys to fill the bus, in support of the local Santa's Anonymous. If you miss the bus during the day, donations will also be accepted.

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Well, that's it for this week.

As always, you can share your water cooler

tidbits with us by e-mailing it to courtesy.whalen@sunmedia.ca or call 780-542-5380 ext. Have a frostily fabulous week!

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ROVING REVIEW



Here we are e-travelling to beaches sandy white! Here we are e-travelling, oh what a lovely sight! There was lots to sing about when Leith and John Sanderson took us with them to California Royal's Tulum last month. It was a ton of fun in the sun!

news

Capturing family fun through the lens of a camera

FCSS holds family photo scavenger hunt

Lesley Allan
Western Review

With the holiday season upon us, a time meant to be spent with family, there's no better way for local residents to spend their free time than taking part in the Drayton Valley and District FCSS Holiday Hoopla. Taking place throughout the entire month of December, this year's event is a little bit different than previous years where there was only one night of organized family fun for residents to take part in.

"We decided that maybe if we

spread it out through the whole month of December then it gives families a chance to have time to do the activity, versus having a movie night one night where maybe somebody is working and can't make it," explains FCSS Program Assistant Karen Tetrault. "This way they can do it on their own time and hopefully have a little bit of fun with it."

Past events for the Holiday Hoopla included a movie night, as well as a swimming pizza party, but organizers are hoping their latest activity will help get even more families out and active.

"In the past FCSS has always done a family activity and it was good but often it didn't involve the entire family," shares Tetrault. "So we decided to change a little bit this year and make it

more of an interactive activity for families."

For this year's Holiday Hoopla, families will be hitting the streets, as well as snow-covered hills, in order to take part in a scavenger hunt, but they'll have to bring a camera along to capture all the fun they have. The organization also hopes they'll learn a little bit more about the community during their adventures.

"It's building resilience, encouraging family time together, and encouraging people to be out in the community accessing different things," says Tetrault, explaining why they chose some of the items of the scavenger hunt list. "By having the photo on the robogang we're hoping that people will be out in the parks, and by coming to the Rotary House to have a

picture taken it just helps people to know what's out there in the community for them."

With other items on the list including reading at the library, performing a random act of kindness, and helping a senior, the photo scavenger hunt is set to not only benefit the families taking part, but the community as a whole.

Open to anybody in Drayton Valley or Brazeau County, Tetrault hopes that no matter what the family situation, residents in the area will take the time to use this event as a way to get closer to those who are important, since family doesn't only consist of those related by blood.

"Understanding that we do have people in the community that may not have families, we said a minimum of four family

members, but your family members could also include those token families," Tetrault shares. "We all sort of have that person that we do consider family, so it's not necessarily two parents, two children type of thing. It's who you consider family."

For those who take the time to get involved, the deadline for photo submissions is Dec. 31 and can be done by e-mailing fcssadmin@draytonvalley.ca. All families that make a submission will receive an entry for a grand prize, while additional prizes will be given for creativity and team participation. More information about the scavenger hunt, including a full list of items, can be found by visiting www.facebook.com/DraytonValleyandDistrictFCSS or by calling (780) 514-2206.

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The Town of Drayton Valley has a new Mobile App! A **FREE** fully loaded app for **Apple** and **Android** devices

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news

Town looks to create unique park spaces

Public sessions held to get ideas on three parks

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

With a goal of creating park spaces that are destinations for users, and foster community building, the Town of Drayton Valley was seeking public input last week.

The Town has hired Edmonton-based EIDOS Consultants Inc. to come up with recommendations for improvements to Rotary Park and the Downtown Park, as well as a concept for a new park that will be developed on the former site of H.W. Pickup Junior High School. With the background work completed, including the review and assessment of each of the three sites, Stefan Johansson and Kayla Poch from EIDOS were in the community last week to get input from those who use the green spaces.

Two afternoon sessions were held focusing on the Downtown Park (located across the street from the Drayton Valley Civic Centre) and evening sessions were held to discuss Rotary Park and the park that will be developed around the existing skate park.

Johansson said once EIDOS has hired their "marching orders" were to look at giving each of the three parks a distinct purpose and to create a concept of outdoor spaces where "families can gather, strengthen relationships and build a healthy, engaged community."

Director of Community Services Annette Driesen said the Town has known for some time that it wanted to look at the green spaces, how to improve them and give them their own distinct character.

When it comes to the existing two parks included in the project that involves defining what makes them unique and some fine tuning to what already exists. For the former

H.W. Pickup site, which will include the entire property with the exception of existing school parking and the proposed bus hub, there is no existing development except the 4-5 Skatepark and Rotary House. It is also anticipated to be home to a proposed outdoor rink.

Especially with that site, discussion centred around the idea of what the public sees as its best use. "Any time you have an open space with nothing there we need to make sure people know what the vision is," said Driesen.

While none of the four sessions drew large numbers of participants, those who did attend were asked to identify the strengths and concerns of each park. Johansson then engaged participants to share their thoughts on what could and should happen in the spaces to make them destinations for the local, and even regional, community.

As part of his introduction to the work that EIDOS is doing at the request of the municipality, Johansson said that while parks can take many forms the goal is to foster the idea they are necessities for community health and sustainability.

"Lines on paper can change. The vision doesn't," said Johansson at the Dec. 4 session for the Downtown Park. Despite the small turnout, at the end of the four sessions Johansson said they provided EIDOS with lots of ideas to assist in the creation of concepts that will be presented to Drayton Valley Town Council and administration in the new year.

"You can ask 10 people or 100 people and you get commonalities," he said at the conclusion of the evening session on Dec. 4. "Those commonalities will still start shining through."

EIDOS will identify those commonalities and use them when creating their recommendations.

The interactive nature of the public sessions not only pinpoint common ideas, but help those involved start seeing a larger vision, he noted.

"Stakeholders start thinking about what other stakeholders need as well," said Johansson.

"People start listening to each other and the ideas evolve."

Those present at the Rotary Park session agreed that location, with its exist-

ing infrastructure and uses, is a draw for families. Many at the afternoon sessions seemed to agree the Downtown Park could evolve into a civic square and be used to encourage more foot traffic in the downtown core and host arts and culture activities.

Many of the ideas for the undeveloped former H.W. Pickup site built on the active uses already seen with the skate park and proposed skating rink. Active uses such as a BMX space, snowshoe track in winter, outdoor fitness equipment and basket-

ball, were discussed for that space. Passive uses and even a cafe were also suggestions for that green space.

The discussion during the sessions supported the idea of creating parks that each offer the community something separate from the others.

"People embraced the idea that these three parks are distinctive," said Johansson. Driesen agreed.

"I think what really hit people was theming the park," she said. "The uniqueness behind each park homes in

on what we can have." With this round of public consultation completed EIDOS expects to have a preliminary document to the Town prior to Christmas, with formal presentation of concepts, recommendations, associated costs and phasing opportunities to follow in January/February. It is anticipated that the community will then have another chance to look at what EIDOS came up with based on its research and consultation with the public and the municipality.

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Market Report DECEMBER 3, 2014

(On Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014 - 2721 head of cattle went through our rings & 345 in the Canadian Slaughter - VITAL - 3000)

DE - 100 cows	120.00-132.00
DE - 100 cows	105.00-112.00
Holstein cows	100.00-120.00
Holstein bulls	140.00-152.00
Belgian bulls	155.00-150.00
Feeder bulls	140.00-150.00
Good feed cows	100.00-105.00
Older feed cows	90.00
Good feed heifers	100.00-110.00
Cow/Calf pairs (younger)	NONE
Cow/Calf pairs (older)	NONE

Good Feeder Steers 1000 lbs Plus	210.00-217.00
Heifers	195.00-208.00
Good Feeder Steers 900 lbs Plus	210.00-217.00
Heifers	212.00-223.00
Good Feeder Steers 800 lbs Plus	203.00-204.00
Heifers	218.00-228.00
Good Feeder Steers 700 lbs Plus	204.00-205.00
Heifers	228.00-240.00
Good Feeder Steers 600 lbs Plus	205.00-212.00
Heifers	257.00-277.00
Good Feeder Steers 500 lbs Plus	200.00-210.00
Heifers	265.00-322.00
Good Feeder Steers 400 lbs Plus	195.00-205.00
Heifers	300.00-315.00

Dairy Steers	100.00-105.00
Baby Cows Dairy Type	90.00-95.00
Baby Cows Beef Type	400.00
Hay, Sq Bales	4.30-4.50
Stew, Sq Bales	1.25-1.30
Greenfeed, Sq Bales	NONE
Red Bales	NONE

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH - BREED COW & HEIFER SALE



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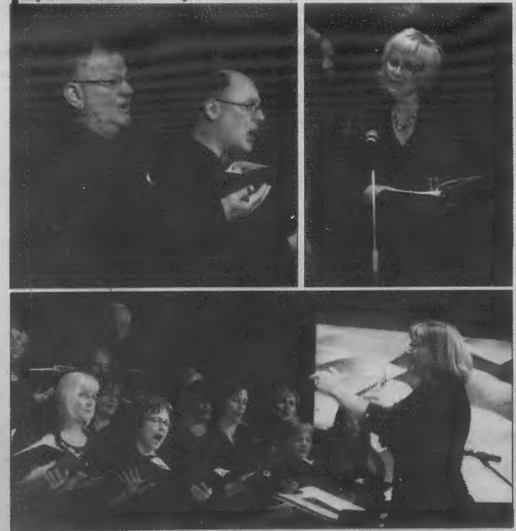
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news

A merry and bright Christmas tune



Lesley Allan Western Review
The Eleanor Pickup Arts Centre was alive with the sounds of Christmas as the Valley Voices Community Choir graced the stage for its annual Christmas concert. Taking place Dec. 7, this year's show was entitled Wintertide, and delighted the audience with a wide range of Christmas favourites.



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Mon., Dec 15.....	Emergency First Aid
Mon & Tues., Dec 15 & 16.....	Standard First Aid
Tues., Dec 16.....	H2S Alive
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news

LIBRARY WELCOMED LOCAL AUTHOR



Lesley Allan Western Review
On Dec. 7 local author Stephanie Bending visited the Drayton Valley Municipal to host a book signing for her latest novel *Desolate*. To learn more about the author and her work, visit www.facebook.com/stephaniebendingauthor.

All Are Welcome To A Christmas Bake Sale
December 13, 2014
1:00pm to 5:00pm
At the Anglican Church
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Christmas tree permits available

Alberta ESRD allows Albertans to cut down Christmas trees on Crown land permit

Lesley Allan
Western Review

With Christmas right around the corner, home owners throughout the area are doing the annual debate when it comes to Christmas trees, real or fake?

If you're leaning towards bringing the fresh pine scent into your home but want to make it a family adventure, the Province of Alberta makes that possible by offering Christmas tree cutting permits.

We want people to enjoy an old fashion family celebration and there's no better way to start that family fun than going out into the great outdoors and cutting your own Christmas tree," says Barry Skellian, wildlife ranger and information officer for Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD).

When it comes to cutting down Christmas trees, Skellian explains that there are several areas that are important for people to know about including where they can cut, and what they can cut.

"People can cut anywhere on Crown land," he says. "But it's important to make sure that people aren't entering private land."

"We also don't want people going in areas that are regenerating with seedlings, such as in areas where it's been commercially harvested," he continues. "Those regenerating plants need to be there, we want to cut (trees) in a safe areas, somewhere in a natural stand of trees."

When cutting down other muscivores include:

- You may cut up to three Christmas trees on a single permit.
- Christmas trees must be under 2.5 metres in height.
- Do not remove trees from:

- Facilities such as nurseries, viewpoints and viewpoints
- Recreation areas, campgrounds, provincial parks, natural areas, or private land

With rules set out for cutting trees, Skellian also emphasizes the importance of individuals going out for

trees to be prepared. "When they're out looking for a tree it's all about safety," he says. "It almost sounds ridiculous but we want people to dress warm, to make sure that someone known where they're going, and to park off the highway because I've noticed that people park along the highway and it's going to become a congestion issue."

Even once you've found the tree of your dreams and are ready to head home, safety for the drive is just as important.

"When people are going home make sure that they're properly tied down in the back of the vehicle. The best way to transport a tree is to put the bottom of the tree, or the butt of the tree towards the front of the vehicle and that way it will be more aerodynamic when going down the highway."

To learn more about cutting down Christmas trees or provincial Crown land visit <http://enr.alberta.ca/home-innate-services/tree-cutting-permits>. Permits and maps of sites where trees can be cut are available in Drayton Valley at the ESRD office on the main floor of the Penn West building (5521 50 Ave.), Poplar Ridge Store (9422 50 Ave.), as well as Seely's General Ltd. located on the north side of Hwy. 13 in Alder Stn.

News tip?

Call Courtney Whalen at 780-542-5380 ext. 24

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Horse Sales: Thurs. 10:00 am

SEKURA LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

Week Ending:	Dec 5, 2014	2318
Feeder Cattle		
Weight:		
800-899	\$2.10 - \$2.38	\$2.00 - \$2.17
700-799	\$2.25 - \$2.50	\$2.00 - \$2.25
600-699	\$2.30 - \$2.69	\$2.15 - \$2.40
500-599	\$2.40 - \$2.76	\$2.25 - \$2.55
400-499	\$2.60 - \$3.16	\$2.35 - \$2.80
300-399	\$3.00 - \$3.69	\$2.50 - \$3.05
200-299	\$3.25 - \$4.12	\$2.80 - \$3.30
Other Cattle		
Butcher Cows	\$1.08 - \$1.32	
Young Cows	\$1.15 - \$1.45	
Butcher Bulls	\$1.15 - \$1.52	
Feeder Bulls	\$1.40 - \$1.65	
Cow/Calf Pairs	N/A	
Brood Cows & Heifers	\$2000 - \$3000	

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• KT Holdings
• The Hair Hut
• Amherst Wood
• Lori Young
• Dairy Queen
• Cassandre Perryman
• Rocky Mountain Imports
• First Choice Recreation
• Seely's Hair Design
• Raskin Clothing

• Gold Poles
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• Sears
• KT Holdings
• The Hair Hut
• Amherst Wood
• Lori Young
• Dairy Queen
• Cassandre Perryman
• Rocky Mountain Imports
• First Choice Recreation
• Seely's Hair Design
• Raskin Clothing

would like to thank the community for their support and generosity in making this year's fundraiser a **HUGE SUCCESS!**

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• Taylor Wintuk
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• M&M Meats
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• Terri's Steaks and Grill
• White Bull Cafe
• Subals
• Carolyn Kessler
• Charlie Kessler
• LS Massage Therapy
• The Flower Farm
• Town of Drayton Valley
• Just Chew it Up Parlor
• Krista Red
• Penny Family
• Extra Foods
• Patro Condo
• Seely's Wedding
• Erika Hansel
• Iron Horse Drilling
• Erika Murfit
• 88 Clothing
• Erickson Family
• Barona Family

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Fifth Annual Drayton Valley Health Foundation Festival Family Fun Night & CT4DV Gala

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Peyton Schneider
Caitie Solomon
Donna Olsen
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Donna Pollack
Taylor Seader
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Tia Sekura
Peyton Schneider
Caitie Solomon
Riley Wakeford
Audrey Whitecock
Michelle Kobernick
Marie Cornelson
Nancy Jacobs
Rosemarie Mayan
Sharon Bierkos

Festival Committee

All funds raised at this year's Gala will go towards the purchase of a CT Scanner for the Drayton Valley Hospital.
Thank you for your support!

We apologize for any errors or omissions.
We appreciate all the support from our community.

CT4DV

Message from the Committee Chair
My heartfelt thanks to the committee for all the hard work and to the community for their outstanding support of the Foundation Festival Gala and our CT4DV Campaign.
Kishor Sekura

Thank you to the Drayton Valley Air Cadets for making sure our guests made it home safely.

Special Thanks to Kaitlyn Clark and the Foodies Club for all the cookies.

Thanks to Jason Thompson for the fantastic video presentation.

news

Drivers unprepared for weather

Weekly news from the Drayton Valley RCMP

Lawrence Adams
Western Review

HIGH COLLISION COUNT

Drayton Valley RCMP is reminding people to drive according to road conditions after the detachment responded to 38 traffic collisions between Nov. 26 and Dec. 2. According to Sgt. Chris Delisle, none of the incidents were serious and weather conditions did play a role.

"People have to be cognizant that when it's winter you have to adjust your driving habits," he said last week. "Thirty-six (collisions) is a lot and we're going to have six months of snow, so let's get used to it slow down and drive defensively."

RECREATION FACILITY HIT

On Nov. 26 at 11:30 a.m., Drayton Valley RCMP received a report from the Brazeau ATV Club regarding extensive damages done to one of the group's facilities. Upon arrival to the campground and staging area, located on Range Road 63 off Hwy. 620, officers found that an abandoned holiday trailer had been burnt and the toilet facility was destroyed. Police have no suspects and are unsure of when the vandalism took place.

24-HOUR SUSPENSION

An area driver had their license suspended for 24 hours and vehicle towed away on Nov. 27. Officers pulled over a driver for travelling in two with their light bar on, upon speaking to the driver it was discovered they had been smoking marijuana.

STOLEN TRAILER FOUND

On Nov. 27 Drayton Valley RCMP received a call about the possible location of a stolen utility trailer. An officer responded to the call and found a 16-foot Mirage utility trailer that had been stolen on Nov. 25.

The caller said they had heard a report regarding the missing trailer on the local radio station and knew to call it in.

FIGHT CLUB

In a span of several hours Drayton Valley RCMP were called three times regarding

local males fighting, as well as one individual causing problems. The incidents started on Nov. 28 at 10:20 p.m. when two males were reportedly fighting outside of a local retail store on 50 St. Upon arrival officers found that one of the males had left the scene, with the remaining two had just gotten into an argument.

Early in the morning on Nov. 29 RCMP once again received a call regarding fights, with an employee of a local bar reporting that five or six males were fighting outside of the establishment. With the call coming in at 1:15 a.m., officers responded but none of the parties involved were still at the scene when they arrived. Alcohol is believed to have been involved in the incident.

Forty-five minutes later, RCMP were heading down to the MacKenzie Conference Centre where there were a number of fights. There was a fight in the parking lot. Upon arrival, officers found that none of the parties involved were still at the scene.

To cap off the evening, at 2:50 a.m., police returned to the bar they had been to earlier when a report came in regarding an intoxicated individual that was causing problems and had punched a window, breaking it. Upon arrival RCMP found that the person involved had left, but they were able to identify him and are looking to locate him for arrest.

CHICK STOPS

On Nov. 30, the Thornby/Benton RCMP, Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Westsask Integrated Traffic Section, Commercial Enforcement Branch and the Westsask Community Peace Officers conducted a combined forces checkpoint in multiple locations near Alder Place, where the Christmas gifts and some money had been taken.

PUKED, STOLEN

On Dec. 1 at 5:20 a.m., RCMP responded to a call from the Aspen Waste Management Facility after it had its gate broken, a lock on a sea can smashed and fuel stolen.

RCMP reports that between 100 and 200 gallons of diesel was taken and anyone with information is asked to contact them.

ANATOMY DEPICTION

On Dec. 1 at 3:45 p.m., RCMP responded to a call from Frank Maddock High School regarding graffiti that had been done

to someone's truck. According to RCMP a large depiction of the male anatomy was spray painted on the tailgate, with that corresponding text etched into the paint. According to Sgt. Chris Delisle, a possible suspect has been identified, but RCMP continues to investigate the incident.

GAS AND HANG

RCMP Sgt. Chris Delisle says they will have to look at encouraging the owners of a gas bar in Torchburg to switch over to a pay before pump system following the third gas and dash the station has had in roughly a month. On Dec. 1 at 6:40 p.m., RCMP received a report that a black Ford pickup filled up with \$80 in fuel before driving off without paying.

PROBING

OFFENDER ARRESTED
On Dec. 2 Drayton Valley RCMP arrested one of the area's prolific offenders as well as another individual.

Around 2:45 a.m., officers were on patrol when they noticed a suspicious vehicle behind a local fast food restaurant. Approaching the vehicle RCMP members spoke with the driver of the vehicle, when they asked them to get out baggies with methamphetamine residue fell to the ground, leading to the discovery of the vehicle. The discovery permitted the officers to also search the vehicle where bolt cutters, a saw, replica handgun, as well as drugs were found.

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news

From darkness to light to remember Jordo

Families want to raise funds to help educate about, and prevent, suicide

MINNIE LUTTS
Sun Media

Although still reeling from the recent death of 20-year-old Jordan Weger, two families, including Jordan's mom, are on a fundraising mission to go to Texas to join many in the Out of the Darkness Walk to raise awareness of suicide.

"We are going, doing an overnight walk to raise funds for suicide. It's an overnight walk about 16 to 18 miles," said Jordan's former girlfriend Erica Stables.

Jordan died on Oct. 3 as the result of suicide. The Out of the Darkness Walk, which will have members of both the Stables and Weger families take part, is held in Dallas annually where people walk all night in the dark to fight suicide.

"The Darkness Night Walk in Dallas, Texas on April 25-26 (coincidentally Jordan's 21st birthday) by walking 16-18 miles through the dark of night, spreading awareness and light. Such a tragic loss has been transformed into a launch pad for us in making it an active mission to become educated about mental illness and suicide and share it with the world," states Team Jordo's link on the Out of the Darkness Walk website.

The Weger family is touched by the gesture of Erica and her family.

"It's amazing that they would do something like that. She (Erica) is part of our family. It's a great honour. When they posted it on Facebook I cried for hours," said Jordan's mom, Annette Weger over the phone last week. "It's a struggle to go on, to breathe sometimes. Today is two months. You never get used to it. Your heart got ripped out," she said in tears on Dec. 3, two months after her son's death.

Jordan's father and sister will also be joining their mom on the walk. When asked about fundraising for the walk she explained it has been a struggle to get out of bed most days but she hopes her family and friends who have been supportive so far will pull together.

"Our family and friends, everyone whose lives were touched by Jordo will come. They will come together as a community and raise funds. The memorial service had 300 people there," she said.

Erica Stables' sister Britney Stables and her mother Arlene Young are getting ready to fundraise as well. The walk needs each person to raise \$1,000 coming to a total of \$6,000 for the two families.

When asked why they decided to go on the walk, Young explained that the family lost two people to suicide in 2014.

"Because this year, 2014, has been really bad for us. In July was a suicide, another friend in January was a suicide. I was angry, I was sad, I was close to it. I realized I need to educate myself," said Young.

Young hopes to learn more about suicide and mental illness during her walk in Dallas.

"In Texas we will learn, educate ourselves, bring more awareness, knowing about signs," she said. "I would love to start doing them locally, after I see how they do it. Because suicide is not something, at least in my family, we don't talk about it," she added.

Young explained the family is conducting a few fundraisers including a bottle drive and will keep the Facebook community updated. They're hoping to start fundraising in January after the holiday season is over.

Since Erica Stables dated Jordan for two and half years, it hasn't been easy for her, but both Young and Britney Stables hope the walk would be a healing process for her. The walk takes place on April 25 and 26, which falls on Jordan's 21st birthday.

"It's a sign," said Annette Weger.

Both families are thankful and appreciative for the support they have received during the tough time.

Jordan's mom pointed out some of the support came from social media, including a Facebook group dedicated to moms and dads who have lost their children.

"In honor of Jordo and other people who have been affected by mental illness or have been taken by suicide, personal and corporate donations can be made under the team name 'Team Jordo,'" or directly to one of us to process it through our registered accounts with the association," stated Britney Stables on the team's page on the walk's website.

Team Jordo can be searched on the event's website at www.theovernightdonorivite.com under the support us tab for donations.

"For any other information contact britneystables@gmail.com."

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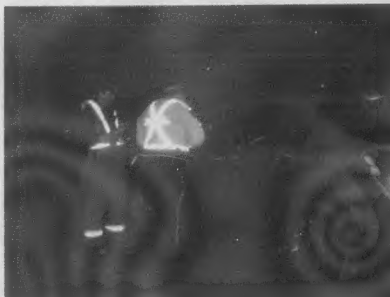
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news

HAVING A SAFE CHRISTMAS



Marta Lufia Western Review
Last week local emergency services were out in force to spread the safety message for the Christmas season with their annual Candy Cane Checkstop. During the evening hours of Dec. 4 approximately 400 vehicles were stopped and 1,000 candy canes were handed out, along with reminders to drive safely and responsibly to ensure a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for everyone.



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Sports

Editor Courtney Whalen
780-542-5380 x 24 courtney.whelan@sunmedia.ca



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A fun day to test the skills of gymnasts



Lesley Allen Western Review
It was all in the name of sport, and fun, when athletes from the Brazeau Gymnastics Club, as well as the Whitecourt Gymnastics Club, gathered at Whitby Hall to take part in a fun meet on Dec. 6. Showing off their skills on the floor, as well as the balance beam, the athletes received encouragement from each other, as well as the judges who gave helpful tips and highlighted the athletes strong points.

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sports

THUNDER UNABLE TO TAME BOBCATS



It was another tough week on the ice for the Drayton Valley Thunder as they failed to net a win in outtings on Dec. 4, Dec. 6 and Dec. 7. Dec. 4 Lloydminster came to town and skied out a one-goal win over the Thunder with a final score of 4-3. Saturday night the Thunder met the Bobcats in Lloydminster, but unfortunately the change of scenery didn't change the outcome, as Drayton Valley took the loss 4-4. Sunday afternoon the local boys tried their luck in Bonnyville against the Pontiacs, but suffered a 5-1 loss in that away game. The Thunder will be back home this weekend taking on the Brooks Bandits Saturday night. That night donations of new, unwrapped toys will also be accepted at the game to be donated to Santas Anonymous.

➤ DV Youngmen showed their skills in the second half of the game

Three goals in four minutes changed the odds and gave DV Youngmen a much-needed boost when they came away

with a 2-4 victory against Stovakia.

The game started late as there was a brawl before the match and things got off to a 'dicey' said DV Youngmen spokesperson Brad Kelly.

The first half didn't seem promising for the team, with players looking unprepared at the beginning.

"We struck first though, only five minutes in. It wasn't a great half for us, and if not for our keeper we would have been behind. The score at half

was only 2-1 for us," explained Kelly.

The team made some changes in the second half of the game.

"The season has been poor and this game, which we should have been dominating, was becoming a dog fight. We shortened our lines, played our top players more often, and sat players who have been behind in production," said Kelly.

The intensity of the players went up while the bench became vocal for all the players on the pitch.

"We notched three goals in four minutes. Nearly a goal a shift to start the second," said Kelly. The team had an on-moment and scored its own goal, but it was already 3-1 at that point. "We actually scored another own goal, giving us nine of all 10 goals scored," he noted.

Goals scored in the second half has helped the team build the confidence which it needed after having lost all the games in the season. "The result and changes seen in the second half have given us renewed confidence entering a swing of very difficult teams. The guys seem fine with the changes made to the way things will be run," said Kelly.



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NEWS

Youngmen score win in their latest match

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DV THUNDER COMMUNITY CORNER



On November 30 the Thunder players volunteered at the Santa's Workshop that was held at the MacKenzie Conference Centre. The boys assisted children with several activities, including writing letters to Santa, making Christmas tree decorations, helping children colour Christmas pictures. They helped children decorate cookies with icing sugar and sprinkles and helped out in the kitchen serving food and cake to all the children. They also helped at the bean bag toss, where children had to throw bean bags at the hole, which was also Santa's belly!

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Due to just 25% of tickets sold by the draw date, it is essential that we extend our tickets sales draw date. Our apologies to everyone who was looking forward to the draw this fall.

All tickets sold to date are still valid to Nov. 14/15.

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AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Please direct inquiries to:
dvagsocietyinfo@gmail.com

NEWS

Area companies get into the spirit of giving

There are many different ways to give back at this time of year

Western Review

As the season of giving is upon us, many oil companies that operate in the local area are taking the time to give back to the community in any way they can this winter.

On Nov. 28 Penn West presented a cheque of \$5,000 to the Wild Rose School Division to go toward the Hope and Dignity Project.

Hope and Dignity is a project within the division that looks after children needs in the junior high age range to make sure they have what they need to be safe and supported.

The company has also been an active partner in

the Winter Clothing Drive to provide gently used winter gear to students who go to school in Drayton Valley. The initiative had Penn West, 4-H clubs in the area and Wild Rose School Division working together to provide some warmth to students.

The project is about understanding the day to day struggles many students experience due to financial situations through no fault of their own and the impact this has on their education and their youth life," stated a document outlining the project.

The initiative was started by Penn West, as company employees who live in the community were able to provide feedback to the company.

Other companies like Arc Resources Ltd., ConocoPhillips and Vermilion Energy are not far behind. A document provided by Arc Resources via e-mail provided a list of activities the company is donating funds to in the spirit of

the season.

The company has been making the donations annually and "the associations have been the same for the last few years," said Arc Resources Ltd. Drayton Valley field manager Rob Meade.

He added that the company tries to focus on programs that may not always get the attention they need. Arc Resources has donated \$1,000 to Drayton Valley Health Services to raise money for the CTDV campaign. It donated \$1,000 to Drayton Valley Health Services Extended Care, \$2,000 to Bratton Seniors Foundation and another \$2,000 to the Live Support Services Association.

Cardium Region Victim Services and Penn West's east coast main Society have received \$2,500 and \$2,000 respectively from the company. The list continues including Santa's Anonymous receiving \$1,000.

The document stated a total of \$20,000 had been donated to the community by the company.

Vermilion Energy has been working closely with the Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC), a partnership that started several years ago.

The ECDC gives a hand to families who may need just a bit of help putting on a happy Christmas for their children.

Every year, the centre puts together 15 trees for families with the help of Vermilion and other members of the community. Vermilion is responsible for five trees, which will help brighten up long winter nights of five different families, confirmed program manager Bernice Taylor in an e-mail.

"All the rest of the trees have tags that parents from the centre, town employees as well as other local businesses and community members purchase gifts for," she

said in the e-mail.

The 15 families that were chosen were given a major part of the questionnaire that would help with selection of presents.

ConocoPhillips is another organization that has tried to leave a positive footprint in the community.

"Conoco wants to be a positive influence in the community and we realize how important Drayton Valley and surrounding areas is to the company," said field administrator Michelle Nairn last week. The company donated \$20,000 to the Eagle Point Education Strategy part of Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Park Council earlier this fall.

"Our kids are very important and we strive to have a positive impact. Approximately 80 per cent of our contributing budget goes towards kids programs,"

Nairn wrote in an e-mail. When asked why children were given a major part of the contributions she said, "Our kids are important to our future and our families, so we want to leave a positive impact for kids and help and support them."

The company handed out about 1,250 Halloween bags to some schools in Drayton Valley and area that had toys for children to play with.

Many other local businesses, companies and individuals also choose this time of year to donate to local campaigns and organizations.

If your business or organization is supporting other local initiatives this Christmas season, take a photo of the donation or activity and e-mail it to courtesy.whalen@sunmedia.ca so we can include it in an edition of the Western Review.

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Mamta Lulla Western Review

With 485 winter jackets, 93 snow pants, 40 winter boots and 150 pairs of gloves donated many Wild Rose School Division students will be able to stay warm this winter. The winter coat drive was conducted in partnership with Penn West, 4-H clubs in the area and Wild Rose School Division to give children protective winter gear this season.

NEWS

Local Santas Anonymous in full swing

Donation boxes up around Drayton Valley, hampers to be packed on Dec. 21

Special to the Western Review

The season of giving is here and Santa's Anonymous is looking for your help.

The organization is now taking donations at many locations throughout Drayton Valley, including Wal-Mart, Canadian Tire, Home Hardware, the Drayton Valley Legion and other businesses.

Santa's Anonymous invites residents to bring in unwrapped new toys, dry goods and clothing such as scarves, mittens and even pyjamas, to help out those who need a little extra help this Christmas season. Hampers will be filled with donations and given to those in need on Dec. 21. Last year Santa's Anonymous were able to provide to 86 families and this year they are aiming to help about 86 to 100.

If you are a family in need, feel free to call their hotline at 780-234-0055 or private message them through their Facebook page. Santa's Anonymous helps families from Drayton Valley, Rocky Rapids, Buck Creek, and Violet Grove.

Note that Santa's Anonymous has new bound aries this year as Lodgepole has established its own organization. Anything west of Range Road 85 will now become a part of Lodgepole's boundaries.

If you are unsure or do not know how to get a hold of your area's Santa's Anonymous you can call the hotline and they will put you in touch with the proper phone number.

If you are interested in doing more than just donating, Santa's Anonymous is looking for volunteers to help prepare and deliver the hampers on Dec. 20 and 21. On Dec. 21 volunteers will gather at the legion hall to pack hampers prior to delivery.

If you are interested in giving your time to help this cause contact the hotline for details or message the local organization through its Facebook page Drayton Valley Santa's Anonymous THUNDER TO HELP COLLECT FOR CAMPAIGN. This year the Drayton Valley Thunder are supporting Drayton Valley Santa's Anonymous by holding a "Stuff A Bus" event on Dec. 13. A bus, along with Thunder players will be at the Wal-Mart parking lot on Saturday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys. The bus will also be parked at the Omniplex accepting donations during the Thunder's home game that night.

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2011 FORD F150 100,000 KMS 14077KMS \$18,995 or \$128 BI-WEEKLY	2011 FORD F150 100,000 KMS 14077KMS \$18,995 or \$128 BI-WEEKLY	2009 VOLVO S60 100,000 KMS 14077KMS \$15,500 or \$118 BI-WEEKLY

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TERRAIN DENALI



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2015 SIGN & DRIVE \$0 DOWN \$0 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS \$0 SECURITY \$0 DELIVERY*



ALL TERRAIN DOUBLE CAB SHOWN

2015 SIERRA 1500 DOUBLE CAB 4X4

\$173 AT 0%

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2015 TERRAIN AWD

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FEATURES

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School notebook

NOTEBOOK from pg. 28

Tonahawk School's Christmas concert will take place on Dec. 16 at 7:02 p.m. We welcome everyone to attend! Circle the date on your calendar!

The winter season is most definitely here bringing with it, at times, very cold weather. Please ensure your children dress appropriately in snow pants, jackets, toques and mitts so they can enjoy their playtime outside during recess and be warm and safe on their bike ride in and from school.

Our junior high students play host to other students in grades seven to nine from Ennisville, Seba Beach and Wabamun Schools for a Christmas dance on Dec. 11. DJ services will be provided by Sound View DJing Services.

Thank you to Mr. Allan and Mrs. Chris Roberts for their donation of \$2,000 to Friends of Tonahawk School towards the Snoozler Room. Your generosity is truly appreciated!

Thank you to all students in Grade 4-8 who created fantastic works of art for the Remembrance Day poster contest. Posters were judged at the school level and we are pleased to announce that the winners are:
1st: Hannah Casavant, Grade 6
2nd: Shyanna Barren, Grade 6
3rd: Ierel Munch, Grade 5
Congratulations to all students who took part!

Posters with parental consent will be forwarded to the Drayton Valley Royal Canadian Legion for judging.

The music program is still taking donations of instruments. Please contact Mr. Smith at cdmshlpsd70.ab.ca if you have an instrument to donate. Thank you, ST. ANTHONY.

The Junior High Awards Assembly was held Dec. 4 and the following students received Principal's Honour Roll awards:

Grade 7: Natalie Barnard, Emma Bergeron, Dawson Boser, Lucas Empringham, Andrew Fontana, Cody Horne, Claire Schneider, Vonnue Tandoc and Audee Uhl.
Grade 8: Maryann Almeida, Morgan Beckett, Toni Benati, Cole Chaplin, Hannah Crippa, Rebecca Fontana, Avery Gramlich, Ashley Gray, Raphael Gutierrez, Chelsey Ingalls, Arika Kahol, Elizabeth Lemermeyer, Nathan Monteiro, Lana Oudogon, Benjamin Pequin, Raymon Sacramento, Aric Schoeninger, Jordan Thirak, Abrielle Thordson and Aika Wojcik.

Christian Spirit Awards were received by Grade 7 student Natalie Barnard, Grade 8A Benjamin Pequin and BB Rebecca Fontana. Way to go everyone!

Mrs. McGee would like to announce that from sales during the Scholastic Book Fair, more than \$2,200 was raised. The teachers will be able to add some great books to their classroom libraries. A big thank you to all St. Anthony families who supported our book fair and to the wonderful volunteers who helped out during the book fair.

St. Anthony School will once again be collecting food for the local food bank. Please check your child's agenda for further details. Please help support this worthy cause for all those in need within our community.

The Giving Tree is set up in the front foyer

of the school. Let's fill the tree with toques, mittens, scarves and gloves, for those less fortunate.

I LOOKING FOR A QUALITY PROGRAM TO CARE FOR YOUR CHILD? Look no further! The Boys & Girls Club of Drayton Valley offers quality programming in a licensed out of school care program, run by caring and qualified staff. What will your child do in the program? There is a wide range of activities, including centres, stories, snack, outdoor play, games, crafts, dramatic play, cooking, and free time! There has been great feedback from those already registered in the program. Often, the kids don't want to leave!

WORRIED ABOUT THE COST? The cost is \$310 per month (with the cost going down \$50 for each additional child). If you need to, you can apply for full subsidy from the government (similar to how you would for day camps). The staff work from 3-6 p.m. with the children each school day. Full day camps held on weekdays when there is no school (8 a.m.-6 p.m.) are included in this cost. (This excludes statutory holidays, of course.)

ONLY NEEDED TO CHILDCARE ON PD DAYS? If you are only interested in the full day camps as mentioned above, have no fear! You can register your child for a cost of \$35 for a single day. The program will start accepting day camp registrations a week prior to the day. Just give us a call!

For more information please contact the Boys & Girls Club of Drayton Valley at 780-514-3400.

News from the Shark Tank, Running Club will have their feet quickly moving on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Basketball tryouts have begun and teams will be selected soon.

School Council News & Notes: St. Anthony School Council wanted to take a moment during this busy season of giving, to thank those who contributed to the success of our 6th annual Winter Wonderland Fair. With the help of the many sponsors, volunteers, participants and guests the Winter Wonderland Fair was a huge success. We wish you all very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! From the staff and students at St. Anthony School a tremendous "thank you" to our Parent Council for the work invested in making our Winter Wonderland Fair a huge success!

St. Anthony fundraising cards have been sold, the sheets are being mailed up and we will be announcing the winners shortly!

Please join us for the first council meeting of 2014 on Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. As always, babysitting will be provided.

Important Reminders: Our school doors will open at 8:20 a.m., registration and prayer will begin at 8:35 a.m. and dismissal will be at 3:09 p.m.

Please ensure your child has weather appropriate clothing and footwear with them every day. An extra set of clothes is always a good idea to have in their backpacks.

Preventing the spread of illness in schools is critical to keeping everyone as healthy as possible. Please do your part by keeping your child's hands clean when they are unwell. It is important that we keep our school safe for everyone. You can help by letting us know if your child is diagnosed

with influenza, strep throat, chicken pox, pertussis, measles, impetigo, fifth disease, hand foot and mouth or pneumonia. Remember to call the school every day that your child will be absent. Make sure the school has your current contact information in case your child was to become ill or injured at school.

All messages need to arrive at the main office before lunch hour. This way we can make sure that your child gets this message without being disrupted from their class and ensuring they receive the message before the end of the day. Only in cases of emergency will we call your child out of class. Staff welcomes opportunities to meet and discuss your child's program, but do not interrupt classes to speak to your child's teacher. Please leave a message at the office for the teacher to call and make an appointment.

Office hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Parents, please make sure you call the office or e-mail kerrie.lemermeyer@stanthony.ab.ca if your child will be late or absent. If

you have reached the answering machine please leave a message as staff are unavailable to answer the phone.

Important Dates to Remember in December:
9 - Mrs. Prentice's class swimming 10-11 a.m.
10 - Tim Horton's Santa Day, Kindergarten Christmas concert at 1:30 p.m.
11 - Grade 1-6 Christmas concert at 7 p.m.
12 - Adoration, pyrama day
16 - All grades free swim, please watch your child's agenda for time
17 - Mon/Wed Preschool Christmas concert at 9:30 a.m., Living Nativity at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Performances in the back parking lot
18 - Tues/Thurs Preschool Christmas concert at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
19 - Ugly Christmas sweater day, Last school day of 2014

Please check our website stanthony.ab.ca or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Anthony-School-Drayton-Valley/568576459817965> for up-to-date information.

GET IT BEFORE YOU NEED IT.

Influenza visits Alberta every year. The good news: influenza vaccine can protect you first.

THIS SEASON, GET PROTECTED, NOT INFECTED.

Alberta's influenza immunization program is ongoing.

Influenza immunization is available, free of charge, to all Albertans six months of age and older.

Upcoming Immunization Clinics in Your Area

DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:
Tuesday, December 16	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Drayton Valley Community Health Centre, 4110 50 Avenue Drayton Valley

Please bring Alberta Health Care Card. Short sleeves recommended

For more information visit abhealthcare.ca/influenza or call 1-866-408-5465 (LINK)

Alberta

Alberta Health Services

Pertussis outbreak

Western Review

An increase in the sustained number of cases of whooping cough has led to Alberta Health Services (AHS) declaring a pertussis outbreak in the Central Zone of the province. There have been a total of 107 cases that are confirmed in the Central Zone. Seven of the total number of cases have required hospitalization.

The Drayton Valley Western Review called to confirm if there were any cases reported in the area and AHS spokesperson Heather Kipling said they do not provide case information by community.

AHS is offering additional immunization for at-risk individuals. Infants who are six months of age or younger are at the highest risk for severe complications.

"Pertussis can be treated, most successfully if caught early; however, immunization can safely prevent disease and, if it does occur, reduce symptoms and spread of the disease," stated a release from AHS. Pertussis immunizations are offered at no cost in Alberta through Alberta's routine childhood immunization program.

A series of doses is recommended, starting at two months of age, and again at four, six and 18 months; at four to six years; and again in Grade 9. Following this schedule ensures protection in up-to-date. Albertans who have not received a dose of pertussis vaccine since turning 18 years of age are eligible to receive a single dose," stated the release.

AHS has increased the number of immunization appointments available in the Central Zone to reduce infant infection rates. These appointments are geared towards infants and pre-school aged children who are not up-to-date on immunizations, caregivers and close contacts of infants such as parents, grandparents, nannies and child care staff, health care workers and women who are at least 26 weeks pregnant.

If anyone believes they or a family member has pertussis, they are advised to stay at home and call a family physician or Health Link Alberta at 1-866-408-5465 before seeking medical care.

For more information on pertussis visit immunizealberta.ca and select common questions under the I need to know more tab.

Need to get something off your chest?

E-mail letters to the editor to courtney.whalen@sunmedia.ca

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0% FINANCING FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS

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news

PLenty of LOVE to GO AROUND



Mama Lulla Western Review

The Drayton Valley Health Services Foundation is up its Tree of Love at the Drayton Valley Hospital on Dec. 2. Residents can hang up ornaments on the tree in memory of a loved one, or to mark a life event, for a donation. Donations support the CT4DV.



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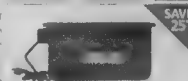
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CHRISTMAS gift guides SANTA'S BIG \$500 CASH GIVEAWAY

It's Easy to Play!

CONTEST RULES: Complete the customized entry forms and drop off each week to the participating business location by the entry deadline. Entries must be dropped off by the deadline on the entry form. One semi-finalist will be drawn from each participating business each Monday at Noon. The semi-finalist from each business will go into the final grand prize draw drum and be eligible to win the grand prize of \$500. Watch the Drayton Valley Western Review each week for entry forms.

THE MORE YOU ENTER, THE BETTER CHANCE YOU HAVE TO WIN!

Winner will be notified by phone. You must be 18 years of age to play. One entry per household. Original entry forms must be used - no photocopies will be accepted. Sun Media employees and their families are not eligible.

GRAND PRIZE DRAW DATE: December 23rd at Noon

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The Drayton Valley

Western Review

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Tower's Bldg. 5116 - 52nd Ave.
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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Keep your parties stress free and fabulous

News Canada

Few things are as taxing as hosting a large group and with the added pressure of the holidays, things can derail fairly quickly. Stop, take a deep breath, and follow this simple guideline to holiday entertaining that is certain to be merry and bright.

• Set a budget — It's easy to get spread when everyone will be scrutinizing the details of your event, but make sure to set a realistic limit. If you plan early enough, there are many DIY projects to spruce up the décor in your house and to inject a holiday spirit without breaking the bank. Head to Pinterest for inspiration and your local dollar store for supplies. Whatever your budget, you can throw a great party.

• Make a guest list and check it twice — Who you invite to break bread with is pretty essential to a successful event. Don't feel that you have to invite everyone and their friends in order to be a good host. It's harder not to invite your crazy Aunt Evelyn, but you can probably skip the gossip co worker.

• Fill their plates — Whether you're having it catered or tackling the job yourself, the holidays are really a time for old favourites, but don't be afraid to throw in a contemporary spin.

Just don't try a new recipe the day of the party. Test the food out on your family to avoid serving 50 collapsed soufflés. And make it easy on yourself by only serving nibbles. People love to graze. It's easier to make the dishes ahead of time and this gives you the opportunity to offer a lot of variety to a group of diverse eaters.

• Set the mood — Don't forget an essential element to holiday entertaining is music. The tunes at any event really help to set the ambience, but with everything else that you're doing, don't add the time-consuming task of building a perfect mix.

"Make it easy on yourself," says SiriusXM Canada.

They advise to simply use your computer or mobile device to access commercial-free holiday music to suit every taste through Internet Radio. From Christmas classics to Hanukkah favourites, keep the party going with hits from the past, current club anthems, or traditional holiday tunes. You can listen free for a limited time at www.siriusxm.ca.

• When it's all done — Make sure all your guests have a safe ride home by having a few cabs pre-ordered. Surprise them with an adult "goodie bag" to take along, which may include water bottles, (b)uprofen, a recipe for a "bat of the dog" cocktail, and anything that shows you care. Get creative. And as the door closes behind the very last guest, you deserve to sit down, relax and toast yourself for throwing a sensational, stress-free holiday bash.

— www.newsCanada.com



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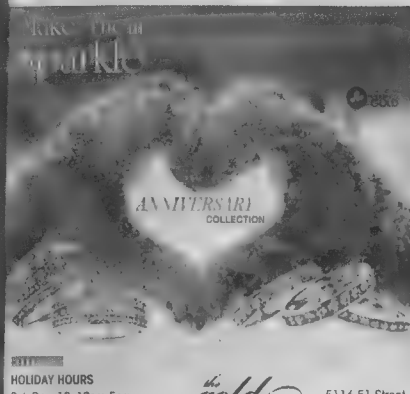
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advice The Christmas tree debate



Mark Cullen

I was basking in the heat of Cairns, Australia, way up where the Great Barrier Reef meets the tropics, when the email came in. "Would you please write a piece for us in a debate over the use of real trees vs. artificial trees during an upcoming Canada AM segment?" As I reached my brain from the tropical space I was in, I imagined an opportunity to finally get the record straight on a real issue (in my books) on the other side of the world.

You bet I was in! Real Christmas trees are the winners, hands down. The reality is that the sale of real, fresh cut Christmas trees has been a steady, gradual decline for a few years now. According to my sources in the Christmas tree business, there are a lot of reasons for this, but today I am going to set the record straight. I just use reader changes to my mind on the subject in your of 'real', I have accomplished something.

Allow me to explain something about Canadian grown Christmas trees. First, the fresh cut Christmas tree that you buy off the lot or from a reliable retailer is a plantation grown, not cut in the wild. It is planted, nurtured, and harvested like any agricultural crop. This

though, takes up to 10 years to produce a marketable specimen. The tree that is planted in the ground is three to four years old at the time. Therefore, the tree that you buy may be up to 14 years old when it reaches germination to the lot that you decorate it.

Fresh cut trees are, well, fresh. They are cut in late fall and trucked to retailers across the country in early November. They do not "dry out" while they are outdoors but they can dry out in your home quite quickly, which is why it is important that you use a tree stand with a large water capacity and that you keep it filled with water.

The land on which Christmas trees grow (about 40,000 acres in Canada) is generally a naturally productive farm. You would not want to grow a food crop on much of it as it is rocky, acidic and often hard to access (as in, way up north or buried in the bush somewhere). Deer and other wildlife forage through Christmas

mas tree farms. They enjoy the protection that they provide and many song birds use the trees for nesting.

Christmas tree growing is a professional endeavour. If you want proof, go to the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association website (<http://www.canadianchristmastrees.ca/>) for information about how to grow Christmas trees, where to get educated on the subject, and where to locate their several hundred members including the many cut your-own-farms. Christmas trees are a not-export crop in Canada and the industry employs a lot of people.

My favourite cut Christmas tree is the Fraser fir (Abies fraseri). It has a lovely evergreen scent, the needles are soft to the touch, it holds moisture in its needles longer than most species reducing needle drop, which further prevents a lot of clogged vacuum cleaners around New Years.

My second favourite tree is the Balsam fir (Abies balsamea), for many of the same reasons I love the Fraser, but the needles are shorter and therefore you won't hang as many ornaments on it.

The Scots pine (not 'Scotch') (Pinus sylvestris) is a native of Scotland, with long, stiff needles. The trunk is often not straight, though a good specimen can be. Needle retention is average. A generation ago it was No. 1 on the market by far, but now represents a fraction of it.

White spruce (Picea glauca) is a problem indoors. If you are going to bring one home for Christmas, do yourself a favour and keep it out of doors until a couple of days before Christmas and take it back out a couple of days afterwards. The needles drop like rain when they become dehydrated, which won't take long.

So fresh cut Christmas trees look good, smell nice, are environmentally the right choice, they produce jobs for Canadians and habitat for wildlife while growing.

Mark Cullen appears on Canada AM every Wednesday morning at 8:40 a.m. He is spokesperson for Home Hardware Lawn and Garden. Sign up for his free monthly newsletter at www.markcullen.com.



Photo courtesy of Mark Cullen
When it comes to the great debate about real or fake Christmas trees Mark Cullen stands firmly behind nature's own.

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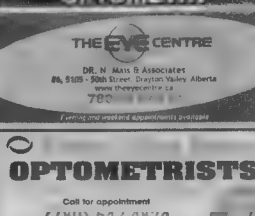
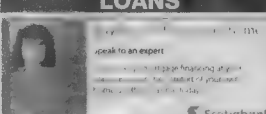
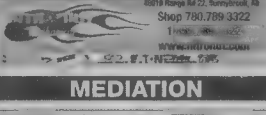


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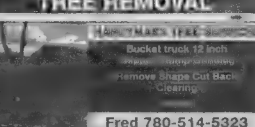
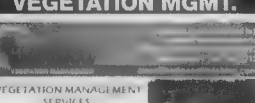
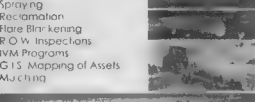
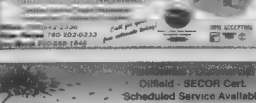
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Obituaries



McCONNELL, Mr. Roy Gerald -
1934 - 2014 - Mr. Roy McConnell of Drayton Valley passed away at the Drayton Valley Hospital on Thursday, November 27, 2014 at the age of 80 years. He will forever be lovingly remembered by his wife of 60 years, Mrs. Mabel McConnell, daughter Dorothy (Lorne) Schadeck, son Harry (Sylvia) McConnell, grandchildren Dawn (Trevor) Mellings, Candice (Danny) Bills, Carmen (Brian) Schadeck, Jesse Schadeck, Heather McConnell, Jamie McConnell, Garrett McConnell, Kelsey (Robert) McConnell and Kacey (Calvin) Urchysyn; great-grandchildren Spencer (Dee-Dee) Wade, Kennedy (Brant) Mannerfeldt, Brooklyn Bills, Kiana Bills, Coby Anna Sherban, Kristin Sherban, Jenna Sherban, Carter Urchysyn, Koden Urchysyn, Trevin Urchysyn, Hayden Urchysyn and Avery Jackson; great-great-grandchildren Asher Mannerfeldt, Emerson Mannerfeldt and Blaire Wade. Roy will also always remain in the hearts of surviving siblings, many extended family and wonderful friends. Roy was predeceased by his parents, Pearl and Jack, as well as by several siblings. A Memorial Service was held on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #269, Drayton Valley, Alberta. Donations in honour of Mr. McConnell may be made directly to Drayton Valley Health Services Foundation (CT4DV), 4550 Madsen Avenue, Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1N8. Condolences may be sent to www.serenity.ca. Arrangements in care of Joelle Valiiero, Funeral Director at:

SERENITY FUNERAL SERVICE, Drayton Valley 780.542.3338



Lawrence Fisher
Suddenly on Thursday, November 27, 2014, Mr. Lawrence Fisher of Carmwood passed away at the age of 67 years. Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 45 years, Diane, son, Shaun (Deanne), daughters, Rita and Sharon (Tary) Pierson and his five beloved grandchildren, Danelle, 14 years; Elizabeth 13 years, Clara, 7 years; Kael, 5 years and Abigail, 2 years. He will also be lovingly remembered by his mother, Helene, 93 years; brothers, Tom, Pat, John, Gerald, Ken, Edward and Kevin; sisters, Sheila, Rita, Margaret and Theresa, as well as by many extended family and friends. Lawrence was predeceased by his father, Albie in 1967. For complete funeral service information, please visit www.serenity.ca. Interment will take place at Carmwood Cemetery. Arrangements in care of Joelle Valiiero, Funeral Director at:

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Obituaries In Memoriam Thanks Births Celebrations More

Obituaries



SIMON, Bertha "Bert" Elizabeth
April 20, 1920 - November 25, 2014
It is with sadness and sorrow that we announce the passing of Bert Simon on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at the Drayton Valley Hospital with her family by her side, at the age of 94 years. She leaves to cherish her memory, son Rick (Marion) of Drayton Valley, daughter Jean Chaney (Travis) of Bowser, B.C., 5 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren as well as numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of her Life will be held at a later date. If friends so desire memorial donations in her memory may be made to the Drayton Valley Health Foundation (CT4DV), 4550 Madsen Ave, Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1N8 or to Drayton Valley Health Foundation, Extended Care or to STARS, Suite 100, 1519-35 Ave, East Edmonton International Airport, Alberta T5E 0V6. **DRAYTON VALLEY FUNERAL SERVICES**
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In Memoriam



Gerald Stahl

Nov. 9, 1939 - Dec. 12, 2013

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We watched you suffer unable to help.
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Those special years will stay with us.
When we were all together
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Ask Your Notes

Linda (Cathrea) Renkas 1946 - November 14th 2014

Thank - you

Renkas family would like to thank the Drayton Valley hospital staff and Doctor Young for the special care and attention towards Linda during her stay. It is much appreciated for your compassionate care and attention given to Linda in her final days. You have made this transition much easier, you have helped out tremendously, much appreciated.

From the Renkas Family

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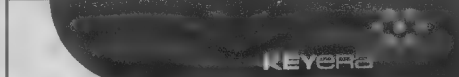
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THE POSITION:

As a valuable member of the Gathering & Processing business unit, the successful candidate will be responsible for day-to-day administrative duties, technical and analytical support. This position will be based out of the Drayton Valley area.

- Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 - Responsible and accountable for daily allocations to the associated pipelines.
 - Provide direct communication with all customers. Understand and complete monthly end responsibilities.
 - Preparing environmental and financial reports, invoice allocation, monthly journal entries and budget preparation.
 - Maintain relationships and communication between the Field and Production Accounting team in Calgary.
 - Other duties as necessary.

- Minimum 3+ years of administrative support or related experience
- Previous Oil & Gas Industry experience is an asset
- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint) with adaptability to learn new software programs.
- Strong commitment to Health, Safety and the Environment
- Self-starter who is able to work independently with a minimum of supervision
- Strong team player with proven communication, problem solving and decision making skills
- Highly organized, reliable individual with attention to detail
- Valid Driver's License, H2S Alive, WHMIS TDG and First Aid Certificates are an asset
- Must reside in the Drayton Valley area

If you are interested in an opportunity to join a winning culture that fosters innovative thinking, open communication, integrity and mutual respect then please submit your resume to: careers@keyera.com by December 19, 2014

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those considered for an interview will be contacted



Responsibilities of Dispatch / Transportation Coordinator:

- ✓ Co-ordinate equipment and personnel for designated jobs
- ✓ Input required information in dispatch program
- ✓ Co-ordinate and organize permits, line lifts and road surveys
- ✓ Comply with Company policies and procedures

We offer competitive wages and benefits.

Email all resumes to cory.crosby@ncsg.com

RETAIL POSITION AVAILABLE

Health-minded individual who is keen to learn and self-motivated. Please send resume to lovethisjobad@gmail.com



WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY

Founded in 1854, Westmoreland Coal Company is a premier energy company with strong leadership, a solid foundation of valuable assets and a proven strategy for growth. Having transitioned from predominantly eastern underground coal to surface coal mining operations in four western states and two Canadian provinces, and power operations in North Carolina, Westmoreland employs approximately 2,800 people in seven states and two provinces, and is producing approximately 1.2 billion tons of coal and generating 1.6 million megawatt hours of electric power annually.

Journeyman Heavy Duty Mechanic Competition No.: 14-102-14

Location: Coal Valley Mine Closing Date: December 12, 2014

Coal Valley Mine: The Coal Valley mine, operated by Coal Valley Resources Inc., is located approximately 280 km west of Edmonton in the foothills of the Rockies near Edson. Initially the mine opened in 1978, and presently supplies approximately 2.3 million clean tonnes of coal to export markets.

Primary of Position: Reporting to the Maintenance Foreman, this position is responsible for performing preventative maintenance and repair of draglines, shovels, mobile equipment and other site services.

Responsibilities:

- Responsibilities include a wide range of activities including, but not limited to:
 - Mechanical repair and maintenance of heavy mobile equipment, mining equipment, draglines, shovels, and vehicles on an assigned shift in a continuous mining operation.
 - Assuming other responsibilities as required in response to changing circumstances and the economic and physical environment of the Mine or Company.

Qualifications:

- Ideal candidate will:
 - Possess an Interprovincial Journeyman Heavy Duty Mechanic Certificate.
 - Have experience with off road equipment.
 - Previous experience on Caterpillar equipment and draglines considered an asset.
 - Troubleshooting experience with willingness to be responsible for results is necessary.
 - Be physically fit and have the ability to cooperate and work effectively with others.
 - Acquire and demonstrate knowledge of safety and health practices and procedures.
 - Adapt to tight deadlines, heavy workloads and sudden or frequent changes in priority in order to accomplish objectives.
 - Demonstrate self-motivation.

Westmoreland Coal Company offers a competitive compensation and benefits package and provides the opportunity for personal growth and development.

How to Apply:

To apply, please send a resume and, cover letter quoting the appropriate competition number. Applications can be sent via email to: careers.cvm@westmoreland.com or fax to 780.794.8146.

We thank all candidates for their applications, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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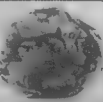
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Careers



McMan

The Evergreen Parent Link Centre in Drayton Valley is seeking a

Program Assistant

Responsibilities include:

• Welcome new and returning clients, schedule appointments, maintain an accurate up to date PLC Implementation Plan
• Assist with the preparation of reports and data collection
• Assist with the preparation of reports and data collection
• Assist with the preparation of reports and data collection
• Assist with the preparation of reports and data collection

The successful candidate will have:

• Grade 12 diploma, post secondary training or combination for experience and training preferred
• A general interest in children and experience and knowledge of parenting and child development
• Good communication and interpersonal skills
• The ability to work independently

Wage Range: \$16.61 to \$17.40 per hour

Hours: Approximately 10-15 hours per week. Flexible schedule with availability to work evenings/weekends

If you are interested in this position, please forward your Resume to:
McMan Youth, Family and Community Services
Unit 21, 4804 - 50 Street
Inverly AB T4G 1P2

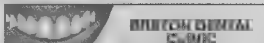
For more information visit our website at www.mcman.ca

Please Quote Competition No. 002

Closing Date: December 17, 2014

We thank all who apply. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for an interview.

McMan is Committed to the Principles of Employment Equity



Dr. Jason Hambleton B.Sc., D.D.S.

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Phone: 780-999-3434

Attention: Maxine or Sheila

Phone: 780-999-3434



Careers



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Prior industrial or oil & gas experience preferred

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OPTICAL CONSULTANT

Your Qualities:

- Enthusiastic with a strong desire for sales
- Positive attitude and team focus
- Professional and confidential
- Your Skills:**
 - Minimum grade 12 with office sales experience or post-secondary education
 - Sound working knowledge of Microsoft office and adequate typing skills
 - Ability to work with the public and thrive at customer service
 - Strong interpersonal skills, communication skills, technical skills, and time management skills

You Will:

- Assist the Optometrist with the pre-examination of the patients
- Provide professional eyewear consultations for each patient on prescription and non-prescription glasses
- Assist, adjust and assemble eye glasses
- Maintain patient files in a confidential manner
- Establish a professional relationship with clients

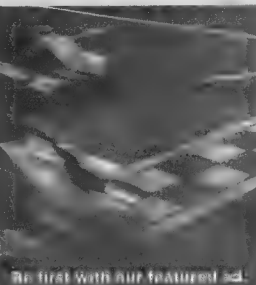
We Offer You:

- Competitive salary in accordance to qualifications and experience
- Opportunity for advancement within the company
- Training
- Employee

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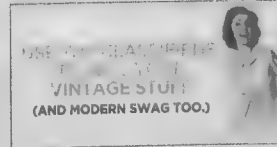
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or fax 780-542-4846



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e-mail: kpapress@telusplanet.net

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6 Field Operator

Blaze Energy Ltd. operates a gas plant in the Brazeau area, as well as 3rd party producer's facilities. The Blaze Energy team is focused on safety and maximizing the cost efficiency of these operations and pursuing opportunities that will enhance the value of the assets while improving the reliability of the operation.

Applications are invited for the following position on our facility:

Field Operator

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Reporting directly to the Team Lead and/or Lead Operator
- Operating and monitoring of oil and gas wells and related equipment
- Assist with production optimization and trouble shooting
- Work in a team atmosphere and take on a variety of operating challenges
- Identifying hazards and the subsequent reporting and corrective action follow up
- Understand and perform safety, environmental, and regulatory responsibilities such as hazard identification, equipment lock-out, emergency response and implement safety procedures
- Identify and accept opportunities to maximize production, maximize operating costs and eliminate downtime
- Perform housekeeping, performance monitoring and maintenance activities

Skills and Experience:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- 5+ years of oil and gas field operating experience
- Strong communication, troubleshooting and problem solving skills
- Formal operational and safety training including 1125, First Aid/CPR, Ground Disturbance, and Confined Space Entry. Solid courses would be a definite asset
- Possesses a valid Class 5 driver's license

Please submit your resume with a cover letter stating why you are the candidate for the position for:

Attention: John Klein (Chief Engineer)

Fax: 780 894-2124

Email: jklein@blazeenergy.com

Closing date: December 15, 2014

We would like to thank you in advance for your interest. However, only those selected for an interview will be contacted

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